GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2175
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a): whether on both sides of Howrah-Dhanbad Railway line nearNimeh colliery of Eastern Coalfields Limited(ECL) theunderground coal burning has emerged as a serious threat;

(b): if so, the remedial steps taken by ECL in this regard;

(c): whether the Government are aware about the danger of this unplanned coal mining by ECL; and

(d): if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): In the South and North side of the railwayline, fire exists in underground workings at Amritnagar and J.K. Nagar/Nimcha collieries respectively. However, the fire has not emerged as a serious threat.

(b): The following remedial measures have been taken by ECL in this regard :-

(i) Amritnagar colliery in the south side: Blanketing at surface is being done with Matti/Sand. Around 3.14 lakh cubic metres of blanketing material has already been spread.

(ii) J.K. Nagar/Nimcha collieries inthe north side: Blanketing at surface with Matti/Sandis being done. Around 5 lakh cubic metres of blanketing material has already been spread. Trench cutting to isolate Nimcha village is also being done by ECL.

(c) & (d): No, Sir. ECL is not indulging in unplanned coal mining.